No. 3247—*San.* 78-07-4, *dated* 10*th October* 1907.

It is hereby notified for general information that the places mentioned hereunder in the district of Shimoga will be deemed to be infected areas for the purposes of the Regulations issued with Notifications Nos. 9383 – Mis. F. 21-96 and 9384—Mis. F. 21-96, dated the 10th February 1898, under the Epidemic Diseases Regulation :—

Place.	*Taluk.*
Balekoppa	Kumsi Sub-Taluk.
Kesavanakatte	Do

No. 3382—*San.* 103-07-2, *dated* 17*th October* 1907.

It is hereby notified for general information that the place mentioned hereunder in the district of Tumkur will be deemed to be an infected area for the purposes of the Regulations issued with Notifications Nos. 9383—Mis. F. 21-96 and 9384—Mis. F. 21-96, dated the 10th February 1898, under the Epidemic Diseases Regulation :—

Place.	*Taluk.*
Tumkur Town	Tumkur.

No. 3380—*San.* 34-07-2, *dated* 17*th October* 1907.

It is hereby notified for general information that the places mentioned hereunder in the district of Hassan will be deemed to be infected areas for the purposes of the Regulations issued with Notifications Nos. 9383—Mis. F. 21-96 and 9384—Mis. F. 21-96, dated the 10th February 1898, under the Epidemic Diseases Regulation :—

Place.	*Taluk.*
Bagur	Channarayapatna.
Mudnahalli	Do
Maruvanahalli	Do

No. 3283—*San.* 86-07-2, *dated* 17*th October* 1907.

The following letter No. 1275-84, dated the 17th August 1907, from the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, received with letter No. 966, dated the 18th September 1907, from the First Assistant to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore, is republished for general information :—

The Scientific Commission which was appointed in 1905 to investigate the causation of plague has now completed the first stage of its labours, dealing with the etiology of the disease, and has arrived at conclusions of great practical importance. Some time must elapse before it is possible to publish an account of all the work done by the Commission, but I am directed to address you at once on those results of its careful and valuable researches which have a direct bearing on the measures to be taken for dealing with the epidemic.

2. From the point of view indicated above the outstanding conclusions are—

(1) that bubonic plague is spread by infected rats;

(2) that the vehicle of contagion between rat and rat and between rat and man is the rat flea; and

(3) that the life of the plague germ in soil, the floors and walls of houses and the like is of short duration.

These conclusions show that many troublesome and expensive measures undertaken for the purpose of destroying the germ in houses may be abandoned; and they indicate that effort should be directed to prevent access to man of infected rats and their fleas, and to counteract the effects of the bites of infected fleas.

3. The Government of India recognise that the prevention of contact between man and infected rats and rat fleas is a problem the solution of which presents great difficulties. The construction of the vast majority of Indian houses favours infestation by rats; there is usually an ample food supply for them, and in many cases the people are not only themselves unwilling to destroy rats, but decline to afford any facilities for their destruction by others. These unfavourable conditions, however, are not always present and there is evidence which indicates that well-devised measures carried out persistently will largely reduce the number of rats and thus retard, if they do not completely prevent, the spread of plague. But it must be remembered that rats breed with great rapidity, and it follows that spasmodic and ill-directed efforts to exterminate them can have little effect on the prevalence of plague and may actually do harm by discrediting not only rat destruction but other measures also.

4. Apart from actual destruction there are other means of keeping down the number of rats. It is impossible to expect in the immediate future much improvement in the structure of houses, but in certain localities something might no doubt be done in this direction, while beneficial results may possibly be obtained by building in selected centres a few houses, suitable for the poorer classes, to serve as models of the type of residence which is best fitted to

secure freedom from rats The provision of such model dwellings may conveniently be undertaken along with schemes for the demolition of insanitary areas and the opening up of congested quarters, measures which the Government of India regard as imperative because they are of value, both directly by reducing the facilities for rat-life and indirectly by their educational effect. Again a diminution of the food-supply of rats by the protection of grain stores and the prompt removal of all garbage has a direct effect on the rat population, which normally is limited only by the available supply of food.

5. The Government of India apprehend, however, that at least for some time to come measures undertaken to reduce the number of rats may have only partial and local results, and it will probably be found in most cases that the only practical way of removing man from contact with rat fleas is by the temporary evacuation of quarters in which plague is prevalent. In the present state of our knowledge evacuation is the most efficient remedy against plague which we can offer to the people and the earlier this measure is adopted and the more completely it is carried out the greater will be the saving of life. It must of course be recognised that even in the most favourable circumstances the evacuation of their houses is attended with great inconvenience to the people, and it should be impressed upon District Officers that while it is their duty to use their utmost endeavours to influence the leaders of the people and induce them to move into temporary dwellings, it is equally their duty, by affording assistance and making wise rules suited to the circumstances of the community with which they are dealing, to make the measure as little irksome as possible. It is impossible to lay down definite directions which should be followed in every case, because conditions vary from place to place. For this reason District Officers and their subordinates should be given considerable freedom of action in deciding what help should be afforded, and they should consult their technical advisers regarding any rules that it may seem necessary to prescribe. In one place grants of money may be desirable; in another it may be advisable to supply the materials for the construction of grass huts either free of charge or on payment; in the third the most suitable form of help may be the provision of corrugated iron for the construction of temporary residences. Arrangements for the care of the cattle will often be necessary, and provision should always be made for the safe custody of the property which the people must leave behind them in their houses. Whatever form of aid it is decided to give should be given promptly, with a minimum of preliminary formalities and without undue detail of subsequent audit.

The wishes and even the prejudices of the people must be consulted and it is important that they should be made to understand the reasons for evacuation and why it is that this measure will save them. If they can be made to appreciate this, the site of the temporary encampment need not be at a greater distance from the evacuated houses than is sufficient to prevent rats following the people; and will not be necessary to impose any restrictions beyond those which are required to prevent people bringing infected fleas with them from their houses.

6. The next measure to which I am directed to invite attention is inoculation. It has been established beyond doubt that inoculation is a most valuable protective against plague and even when it does not afford immunity it doubles the chances of recovery. The Governor-General in Council is aware, however, that there is much prejudice on the subject and the claims of inoculation should be advocated with caution and tact. The goal to be aimed at is the provision everywhere of facilities for inoculation. For this purpose the members of the staffs of hospitals and dispensaries should be utilised whenever it is possible to do so, while establishments of special inoculators should be employed where such supplementary assistance is required. Training in the simple process of inoculation is necessary in all cases and can be given at the Provincial Laboratories and by Commissioned Medical Officers selected for the purpose. I am to suggest that $\frac{\text{the Governor in Council}}{\text{the Lieutenant-Governor}}$ should at once take into consideration the $\frac{\text{You}}{}$ needs of the $\frac{\text{Presidency}}{\text{Province}}$ in this respect.

7. It is known that acute plague in men and rats never completely disappears and it is probable that it is in the localities in which it persists throughout the period of abatement that the yearly epidemics have their origin. In each Province these localities, which may not be the same from year to year, should be ascertained and special attention should be devoted to them with the object of extirpating plague in them and of preventing it from spreading from them.

8. The Governor-General in Council does not think it necessary to press further upon the attention of Local Governments the importance of avoiding any action which excites the opposition of the people. That is clearly recognised, and he desires now, therefore, to dwell rather upon the necessity of urging District Officers to take the initiative by explaining to the people what is known about the causes of plague, by teaching them to appreciate the danger of harbouring rats and by stimulating them to adopt measures of protection. They must not be coerced but on the other hand they must not be left without guidance, advice and help. His Excellency in Council is convinced that the terrible mortality from plague excites the compassion of every officer of Government who is brought in contact with the people, but in the past, sympathy has not infrequently been accompanied by a feeling of helplessness and despair. The problem of combating the disease is still surrounded with many difficulties, but

the increased knowledge which has now been gained has made the outlook distinctly more hopeful, and there is every reason to anticipate that persistent and sustained efforts will at least produce appreciable alleviation even though they may not afford complete relief. The Governor-General in Council relies confidently upon the support and co-operation of Local Governments in a combined endeavour to grapple with the epidemic and he in turn is ready to afford such administrative assistance as lies in his power.

No. 3284—*San.* 82-07-2, *dated* 17*th October* 1907.

The following correspondence relating to the imposition of a tax of 10 piastres by the Turkish authorities on Shiah pilgrims going from India to Basra, received with letter No. 5939, dated the 17th September 1907, from the First Assistant to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore, is republished for general information :—

"Home Department Letter No. 1330—1339, dated the 24th August 1907, from the Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

I am directed to forward a copy of a letter from His Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople No. 70, dated the 12th June 1907, regarding the sanitary measures on the Turko-Persian frontier and the levy of a tax of ten piastres by the Turkish authorities on Shiah pilgrims going from India to Basra. I am to request that
due publicity may be given to the recommendation for the imposition of the tax"

ENCLOSURE TO THE ABOVE.

"I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of the report of the 'Commission de Reorganisation du service du comtrole' which was read and approved at the meeting of the Constantinople Board of Health on the 21st ultimo.

The report of the Commission involves certain changes in the arrangement of the sanitary staff on the Turko-Persian frontier and provides for the establishment of a Sanitary Station at Gourna (Kurna) at the junction of the rivers Tigris and Euphrates.

The Commission further recommended (1) that in future all travellers and pilgrims embarking at a port in the Persian Gulf and proceeding to Basra shall be obliged on arrival in that town to pay the tax of ten piastres prescribed by Article 4 of the Sanitary Dues Tariff, and (2) that the Board of Health shall request the mixed commission for the reform of the Sanitary Tariff to modify the text of the aforesaid article so as to subject in future all Shiite pilgrims irrespective of their place of origin to the payment of the abovementioned tax of ten piastres.

The latter recommendation was framed purposely to include the Shiite pilgrims coming direct from India to Basra who, under the present wording of the Article, escaped the payment of the tax levied on Persian pilgrims."

No. 3475—*San.* 110-07-2, *dated* 22*nd October* 1907.

Under Regulation I of the additional Regulations under the Epidemic Diseases Regulation, 1897, for Municipalities other than those of the Cities of Bangalore and Mysore and for towns and villages, published under Notification No. 1289—M. F. 21-96, dated the 25th July 1898, Part I, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore hereby declare that the towns of Chitaldrug, Davangere, Harihar and Holalkere in the Chitaldrug District to be "Under Observation"

No. 3477—*San.* 22-07-18, *dated* 22*nd October* 1907.

It is hereby notified for general information that attendance of persons from infected areas, at the festivals noted below, has been prohibited by the Madras Government :—

Name of jatra	Place	Taluk	District	Dated		Authority
				From	To	
Kalpatti Car festival	Kalpatti ...	Palghat ...	Malabar ...	6th Nov. 1907 inclusive	16th Nov. 1907	First Asst. Resident's endorsement No. 1036—P., dated the 11th October 1907.
Talakaveri festival	Maligai (Hogenakal).	Dharmapuri ...	Salem ...	10th Oct. 1907 inclusive	6th Nov. 1907	Do No. 1029—P, dated the 11th Oct. 1907